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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

GART, MATTHEW S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3625

DATE MAILED: 04/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/733,372	Applicant(s) PETERSEN, PAUL R.	
	Examiner Matthew S. Gart	Art Unit 3625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE 2/16/2006 and Amend 1/13/2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8,10-15 and 17-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8,10-15 and 17-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/13/2006 has been entered.

Prosecution History Summary

- Claims 2, 9 and 16 have been previously canceled.
- Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15 and 17-21 are pending in the instant application.

Drawings

The drawings as originally filed were received on 12/08/2000. The Examiner accepts these drawings.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15 and 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over alSafadi (U.S. Patent No. 6,467,088) in view of Henson (U.S. Patent No. 6,167,383).

Referring to claim 1. alSafadi discloses a method for facilitating a purchase of a upgrade for a computer system, comprising:

- Obtaining configuration information for the computer system (alSafadi: column 2, lines 20-34);
- Determining a upgrade option based upon the configuration information (alSafadi: column 2, lines 34-52);
- Presenting an option to download the upgrade option to the user of the computer system (alSafadi: Figure 2, step 118); and
- *If the user indicated that the user would like to download the upgrade option automatically initiating a download transaction for the upgrade option (alSafadi: Figure 2);*
 - *Wherein automatically initiating the download transaction involves automatically initiating the download transaction through a website that facilitate downloading the upgrade option by automatically navigating to a*

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web page within the web site that deals with purchasing memory modules (alSafadi: column 5, line 63 to column 6, line 9); and

- o *Wherein the configuration information is obtained and automatically sent to the website by the computer system without intervention by the user so that the user does not have to reenter the configuration information (alSafadi: column 2, lines 21-34).*

AlSafadi does not expressly disclose a method for facilitating a purchase of a plurality of memory upgrades for a computer system. Henson discloses a method for facilitating a purchase of a plurality of memory upgrades for a computer system. Henson discloses an on-line store, which is one component of an Internet website for which a customer may go to configure a particular computer system, for example, according to desired options of the customer. The on-line store is typically a subset of a larger Internet website. At the on line store, a customer can select one or more products that the customer is interested in. Upon selection of a particular product, the on-line store presents the customer with the ability to go to the product information for the particular product, customize the product, price the customized product, and purchase the product (Henson: column 4, lines 35-52). Henson further discloses that merchandising may include up selling an extended service warranty, up selling more RAM, or a bigger hard drive or greater memory capacity (Henson: column 15, lines 46-60). Furthermore, Fig. 3A of Henson shows a drop down menu whereby a user of the computer system can explore a plurality of memory choices by clicking on drop-down menu button 77. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a

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person of ordinary skill in the art to have modified the system of alSafadi to have included the teachings of Henson as discussed above in order to improve the overall quality of an online buying experience through an enhanced online commerce application specific to the ordering of custom-configured computer systems, including personal computer systems (Henson: column 3, lines 45-54).

The Examiner notes, the following portions of claim 1 are given little patentable weight:

- *If the user indicated that the user would like to download the upgrade option automatically initiating a download transaction for the upgrade option;*
 - *Wherein automatically initiating the download transaction involves automatically initiating the download transaction through a website that facilitate downloading the upgrade option by automatically navigating to a web page within the web site that deals with purchasing memory modules; and*
 - *Wherein the configuration information is obtained and automatically sent to the website by the computer system without intervention by the user so that the user does not have to reenter the configuration information.*

The “if the user indicated...” step (along with the “wherein” clauses that follow the “if” step) of claim 1 is a conditional limitation and is given little patentable weight.

Methods are composed of actions, when you perform the actions of a method and do not select one of the alternatives or “if” steps, you are not performing any action under those alternatives. Accordingly, and as in the method itself, once a positively recited

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step is satisfied, the method as a whole is satisfied - regardless of whether or not other steps are conditionally invocable under certain other hypothetical scenarios.

Referring to claim 3. alSafadi further discloses a method comprising automatically transferring at least part of the configuration information to the web site so that the user does not have to reenter details of the configuration information into the web site (alSafadi: column 2, lines 21-34)

Referring to claim 4. alSafadi further discloses a method wherein obtaining the memory configuration information involves reading serial presence detect information from a non-volatile storage device within a memory module in the computer system (alSafadi: column 4, lines 37-47).

Referring to claim 5. alSafadi in view of Henson discloses a method according to claim 1 as indicated supra. Henson further discloses a method wherein determining the memory upgrade option involves:

- Identifying a plurality of memory upgrade options that will work in the computer system based upon the memory configuration information (Henson: Figure 5);
- Allowing the user to select the memory upgrade option from the plurality of memory upgrade options (Henson: Figure 5).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to have modified the system of alSafadi to have included the teachings of Henson as discussed above in order to improve the overall quality of an online buying experience through an enhanced online commerce application specific to

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the ordering of custom-configured computer systems, including personal computer systems (Henson: column 3, lines 45-54).

Referring to claim 6. alSafadi further discloses a method wherein obtaining the memory configuration information involves obtaining at least one of:

- An amount of memory installed in the computer system (alSafadi: column 5, lines 4 -19);
- A maximum amount of memory that can be installed in the computer system (alSafadi: column 5, lines 4-19);
- A number of memory module sockets that are available to accept memory modules in the computer system (alSafadi: column 5, lines 4-19); and
- An operating speed for memory in the computer system (alSafadi: column 5, lines 4-19).

Referring to claim 7. alSafadi further discloses a method wherein prior to obtaining the memory configuration information, the method comprises receiving a command from the user to initiate a memory upgrade for the computer system (alSafadi: column 2, lines 21-34).

Referring to claims 8 and 10-14. Claims 8 and 10-14 are rejected under the same rationale as set forth above in claims 1 and 3-7.

The Examiner notes, the following portions of claim 8 are given little patentable weight:

- *If the user indicated that the user would like to purchase the memory upgrade option, automatically initiating a purchase transaction for the memory upgrade option;*
 - *Wherein automatically initiating the purchase transaction involves automatically initiating the purchase transaction through a website that facilitate purchasing the upgrade option by automatically navigating to a web page within the web site that deals with purchasing memory modules; and*
 - *Wherein the configuration information is automatically sent to the website by the computer system without intervention by the user so that the user does not have to reenter the memory configuration information.*

The “if the user indicated...” step (along with the “wherein” clauses that follow the “if” step) of claim 8 is a conditional limitation and is given little patentable weight. Methods are composed of actions, when you perform the actions of a method and do not select one of the alternatives or “if” steps, you are not performing any action under those alternatives. Accordingly, and as in the method itself, once a positively recited step is satisfied, the method as a whole is satisfied - regardless of whether or not other steps are conditionally invocable under certain other hypothetical scenarios.

Referring to claims 15 and 17-21. Claims 8 and 10-14 are rejected under the same rationale as set forth above in claims 1 and 3-7.

The Examiner notes, the following portions of claim 15 are given little patentable weight:

- *Wherein if the user indicates that the user would like to purchase the memory upgrade option, the purchasing mechanism is configured to automatically initiating a purchase transaction for the memory upgrade option;*
- *Wherein the purchasing mechanism is configured to automatically initiate the purchase transaction through a website that facilitates purchasing the memory upgrade option by automatically navigating to a web page within the web site that deals with purchasing memory modules; and*
- *Wherein the memory configuration information is automatically sent to the website by the computer system without intervention by the user so that the user does not have to reenter the memory configuration information.*

The “wherein if the user indicates...” step (along with the “wherein” clauses that follow the “wherein if the user indicates” step) of claim 15 is a conditional limitation and is given little patentable weight. The apparatus of claim 15 is composed of actions, when you perform the actions and do not select one of the alternatives or “if” steps, you are not performing any action under those alternatives. Accordingly, once a positively recited step is satisfied, the apparatus as claimed is satisfied - regardless of whether or not other steps are conditionally invocable under certain other hypothetical scenarios.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 1/13/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The Attorney argues that neither alSafadi nor Henson suggest automatically initiating a purchase transaction for a product, which involves automatically directing a web browser to a web site and then automatically navigating to a web page with the web site that deals with purchasing the product.

The Examiner notes, the aspects of the invention which the applicant argues that alSafadi in view of Henson do not anticipate or clearly and reasonably teach are only found in those sections of the claims which are given little patentable weight as shown below:

With respect to claims 1, the following portions of claim 1 are given little patentable weight:

- *If the user indicated that the user would like to download the upgrade option automatically initiating a download transaction for the upgrade option;*
 - *Wherein automatically initiating the download transaction involves automatically initiating the download transaction through a website that facilitate downloading the upgrade option by automatically navigating to a web page within the web site that deals with purchasing memory modules;*
and

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- *Wherein the configuration information is obtained and automatically sent to the website by the computer system without intervention by the user so that the user does not have to reenter the configuration information.*

The “if the user indicated...” step (along with the “wherein” clauses that follow the “if” step) of claim 1 is a conditional limitation and is given little patentable weight.

Methods are composed of actions, when you perform the actions of a method and do not select one of the alternatives or “if” steps, you are not performing any action under those alternatives. Accordingly, and as in the method itself, once a positively recited step is satisfied, the method as a whole is satisfied - regardless of whether or not other steps are conditionally invocable under certain other hypothetical scenarios.

With respect to claims 8, the following portions of claim 8 are given little patentable weight:

- *If the user indicated that the user would like to purchase the memory upgrade option, automatically initiating a purchase transaction for the memory upgrade option;*
 - *Wherein automatically initiating the purchase transaction involves automatically initiating the purchase transaction through a website that facilitate purchasing the upgrade option by automatically navigating to a web page within the web site that deals with purchasing memory modules;*
 - and*

- *Wherein the configuration information is automatically sent to the website by the computer system without intervention by the user so that the user does not have to reenter the memory configuration information.*

The “if the user indicated...” step (along with the “wherein” clauses that follow the “if” step) of claim 8 is a conditional limitation and is given little patentable weight.

Methods are composed of actions, when you perform the actions of a method and do not select one of the alternatives or “if” steps, you are not performing any action under those alternatives. Accordingly, and as in the method itself, once a positively recited step is satisfied, the method as a whole is satisfied - regardless of whether or not other steps are conditionally invocable under certain other hypothetical scenarios.

With respect to claims 15, the following portions of claim 15 are given little patentable weight:

- *Wherein if the user indicates that the user would like to purchase the memory upgrade option, the purchasing mechanism is configured to automatically initiating a purchase transaction for the memory upgrade option;*
- *Wherein the purchasing mechanism is configured to automatically initiate the purchase transaction through a website that facilitates purchasing the memory upgrade option by automatically navigating to a web page within the web site that deals with purchasing memory modules; and*

- *Wherein the memory configuration information is automatically sent to the website by the computer system without intervention by the user so that the user does not have to reenter the memory configuration information.*

The “wherein if the user indicates...” step (along with the “wherein” clauses that follow the “wherein if the user indicates” step) of claim 15 is a conditional limitation and is given little patentable weight. The apparatus of claim 15 is composed of actions, when you perform the actions and do not select one of the alternatives or “if” steps, you are not performing any action under those alternatives. Accordingly, once a positively recited step is satisfied, the apparatus as claimed is satisfied - regardless of whether or not other steps are conditionally invocable under certain other hypothetical scenarios.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Markus et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,490,601 B1, December 3, 2002, discloses a server for enabling the automatic insertion of data into electronic forms on a user computer.

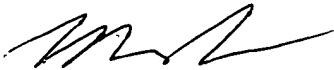
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew S. Gart whose telephone number is 571-273-3955. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff Smith can be reached on 571-272-6763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



MSG
Primary Examiner
March 29, 2006